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AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION PROGRAM

for **Maine**



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION
NORTHEAST DIVISION

THE 1940 Agricultural Conservation Program gives farmers an opportunity to work together in saving their soil and its fertility, bringing about fairer incomes for themselves, and assuring consumers plenty of supplies.

All farmers in Maine who cooperate in the 1940 Agricultural Conservation Program will be offered assistance in using approved soil-building practices which will help to build up their soil. They will also have the right to earn payments by staying within acreage allotments for potatoes. Farmers in Androscoggin, Cumberland, Kennebec, Penobscot, and York Counties may earn additional payments by staying within acreage allotments for vegetables.

The 1940 program year begins November 1, 1939, and ends October 31, 1940.

WOODLAND REHABILITATION ALLOWANCE

Each farm in Cumberland, Oxford, and York Counties will have a woodland rehabilitation allowance of \$60. This allowance may be earned on woodland which constitutes a serious fire hazard as a result of the September 1938 hurricane damage, by eliminating the fire hazard, improving the remaining stand of forest trees, and providing

for the restoration of a full stand of forest trees. The work must be done with the prior approval of the county committee and in accordance with instructions issued by the county committee and approved by the State committee.

This allowance is not included in the soil-building allowance.

Payment at the rate of \$4 for each acre on which this work is correctly done will be allowed toward earning the woodland rehabilitation allowance.

REFORESTATION ALLOWANCE

Each farm will have a reforestation allowance of \$30 in addition to the soil-building allowance. This reforestation allowance may be earned by planting transplanted forest trees at the rate of at least 1,000 trees per acre spaced about 6 by 6 feet. One thousand trees planted on two or more small tracts of less than 1 acre each shall be considered as an acre, even though the total area may be larger. Shrubs helpful to wildlife may be included in the planting.

Areas planted must be given reasonable protection against fire and damage by livestock-grazing and must be cultivated in accordance with good tree culture and wildlife-management practice.

Species approved for planting are white pine, when currant and gooseberry bushes have been cleaned out; red (Norway) pine; red spruce; Norway spruce; Scotch pine in mixed planting; and hybrid poplars. Other species must be approved by the State committee.

Payment at the rate of \$7.50 per acre will be allowed toward earning the reforestation allowance.

SOIL-BUILDING ALLOWANCE

Each Maine farmer who takes part in this program is expected to use one or more of the soil-building practices which are good for his farm. To get the most good from the program he should use, insofar as possible, practices which are not already being used on the farm. In order that the farmer will know how many practices he may carry out for payment, a soil-building allowance will be computed for his farm. This soil-building allowance is found by first adding all of the following items which apply to the farm:

70 cents times the acreage of cropland on the farm, not counting acreage in the potato allotment. **Cropland** means farm land which in 1939 was tilled or was in regular rotation, not counting any land in commercial orchards.

\$2 times the acreage of commercial orchards on the farm on January 1, 1940. **Commercial orchards** means the acreage in planted or cultivated fruit trees, nut trees, vineyards, hops, or bush fruits on the farm on January 1, 1940, from

which the principal part of the production is normally sold. This definition does not include nonbearing orchards and nonbearing vineyards.

40 cents times the acreage of fenced, noncrop open pasture land in excess of one-half the acreage of cropland on the farm.

For those farms on which the sum of these items is \$20 or more, the soil-building allowance will be equal to the total of these cropland, orchard, and pasture items.

For those farms on which the sum of these items is less than \$20, the soil-building allowance will be equal to the **larger** of (1) the sum of these cropland, orchard, and pasture items or (2) the amount by which \$20 is more than the sum of the allotment payments which could be earned on the farm.

SOIL-BUILDING PRACTICES

The following are soil-building practices which farmers in Maine may carry out for payment under the 1940 Agricultural Conservation Program. For each practice carried out as specified and in accordance with good farming practices on the farm, payment at the rate shown for the practice will be allowed toward earning the soil-building allowance for the farm. However, the total payment for carrying out practices cannot be larger than the soil-building allowance.

If one-half or more of the total cost of carrying out any practice is represented by labor, seed, trees, or materials furnished by a State or Federal agency other than the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, the practice shall not be counted toward earning the soil-building allowance.

If less than one-half of the total cost of carrying out any practice is represented by labor, seed, trees, or materials furnished by a State or Federal agency other than the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, one-half of the practice shall be counted toward earning the soil-building allowance.

Trees purchased from a Clark-McNary Cooperative State Nursery shall not be deemed to be paid for in whole or in part by a State or Federal agency.

SEEDING BIENNIAL LEGUMES

Practice No. 1.—*Rate of Payment: \$0.75 per Acre*

The seeding of biennial legumes or mixtures of timothy or redtop and legumes. When medium red clover is used, it must be hardy, northern-grown. Payment will not be allowed for this practice if such seedings are plowed or disked under for green manure in 1940.

If the stand is unsatisfactory, payment will not be allowed for the practice unless the farmer submits to his county committee a soil test which conforms to the regulations of the State committee, or other evidence that enough lime, fertilizer, and seed were used to assure ordinarily a good stand.

SEEDING ALFALFA

Practice No. 2—*Rate of Payment: \$1.50 per Acre*

On land properly drained, the sowing of at least 15 pounds per acre of hardy, adapted, northern-grown domestic or Canadian alfalfa seed.

If the stand is unsatisfactory, payment will not be allowed for the practice unless the farmer submits to his county committee a soil test which conforms to the regulations of the State committee, or other evidence that enough lime and fertilizer were used to assure ordinarily a good stand.

SEEDING PERMANENT PASTURE

Practice No. 3—*Rate of Payment: \$3 per Acre*

The sowing of at least 9 pounds per acre of a permanent pasture mixture containing 2 parts by weight of ladino clover and 7 parts by weight of timothy.

If the stand is unsatisfactory, payment will not be allowed for the practice unless the farmer submits to his county committee a soil test which conforms to the regulations of the State committee, or other evidence that enough lime and fertilizer were used to assure ordinarily a good stand. In general, about the same amount of lime and fertilizer is needed for ladino clover as is needed for red clover.

RESEEDING DEPLETED PASTURES

Practice No. 4—*Rate of Payment: \$1.50 for Each 10 Pounds of Seed but not in Excess of \$1.50 per Acre so Seeded*

The reseeding of depleted established pastures with good seed of adapted pasture grasses or grasses and legumes.

If the stand is unsatisfactory, payment will not be allowed for the practice unless the farmer submits to his county committee a soil test which conforms to the regulations of the State committee, or other evidence that enough lime, fertilizer, and seed were used to assure ordinarily a good stand.

APPLYING AVAILABLE PHOSPHORIC ACID TO BUILD UP AND MAINTAIN THE FERTILITY OF THE SOIL

Practice No. 5—*Rate of Payment: \$1.50 for Each 48 Pounds*

The application of at least 32 pounds per acre of available phosphoric acid in connection with the seeding of biennial or perennial legumes, perennial grasses, winter legumes, green manure crops in

orchards, or permanent pastures, or on green manure crops in orchards or on established orchard, pasture, or hay land sod.

On livestock farms, at least 25 percent of the phosphoric acid used under the program should be incorporated in manure prior to storage, or in the gutter when manure is hauled directly to the field. Payment will be allowed for the phosphoric acid used with manure only if the manure is applied to or in connection with the seeding of biennial or perennial legumes, perennial grasses, winter legumes, green manure crops in orchards, or permanent pastures.

When phosphoric acid is used on a nurse crop which is harvested for grain, payment will be allowed only for the amount used over 32 pounds per acre.

APPLYING SUPERPHOSPHATE FURNISHED BY THE A. A. A. TO BUILD UP AND MAINTAIN THE FERTILITY OF THE SOIL

Practice No. 5A—Rate of Payment: \$1.50 for Each 100 Pounds of Triple Superphosphate

The application in connection with the seeding of biennial or perennial legumes, perennial grasses, winter legumes, green manure crops in orchards, or permanent pastures, or as a top dressing on green manure crops in orchards, or on established orchard, pasture, or hay land sod, of at least 32 pounds per acre of available phosphoric acid in triple superphosphate furnished by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration. On livestock farms the triple superphosphate may be mixed with manure prior to storage or in the gutter when the manure is to be hauled directly to the field.

Payment will be allowed for the triple superphosphate used with manure only if the manure is applied to or in connection with the seeding of biennial or perennial legumes, perennial grasses, winter legumes, green manure crops in orchards, or permanent pastures.

Triple superphosphate furnished by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration shall not be used on a nurse crop which is to be harvested for grain.

APPLYING AVAILABLE POTASH TO BUILD UP AND MAINTAIN THE FERTILITY OF THE SOIL

Practice No. 6—Rate of Payment: \$1.50 for Each 75 Pounds (2 Cents per Pound)

The application of at least 20 pounds per acre of available potash in connection with the seeding of biennial or perennial legumes, perennial grasses, winter legumes, or permanent pastures; or on established orchard, pasture, or hay land sod.

LIMING CROPLAND, PASTURE LAND, OR ORCHARDS

Practice No. 7—*Rate of Payment:*

PULVERIZED OR GROUND LIMESTONE.—\$2.50 for each 500 pounds of calcium oxide neutralizing equivalents which will pass through a 20-mesh sieve and which contain all of the fine material produced in the grinding.

HYDRATED LIME.—\$2.50 for each 500 pounds of calcium oxide neutralizing equivalents.

PULP MILL LIME.—\$1.50 for each cubic yard.

(1) The application of at least 500 pounds per acre of calcium oxide neutralizing equivalents to orchards, pasture land, or cropland which is not used for the production of potatoes.

(2) The application of not more than 500 pounds per acre of calcium oxide neutralizing equivalents to land in a potato rotation. If the land is to be planted to potatoes in 1941, the liming material must be applied prior to July 15, 1940.

Payment will not be allowed for the application of liming material to land which is to be planted to potatoes in 1940. This does not prohibit payment for applying liming material in accordance with item (2) after the 1940 crop of potatoes is harvested.

Payment will not be allowed for the application of any liming material which is disapproved by the county committee.

One hundred pounds of magnesium oxide is equivalent in neutralizing value to 140 pounds of calcium oxide.

Recommended liming materials.—Hydrated lime, pulverized or ground limestone, marl, wood ashes, pulp mill lime, dump lime, or other material approved by the State committee.

LIMING CROPLAND, PASTURE LAND, OR ORCHARDS WITH LIMING MATERIAL FURNISHED BY THE A. A. A.

Practice No. 7A—*Rate of Payment:*

PULVERIZED OR GROUND LIMESTONE.—\$2.50 for each 500 pounds of calcium oxide neutralizing equivalents which will pass through a 20-mesh sieve and which contain all of the fine material produced in the grinding.

HYDRATED LIME.—\$2.50 for each 500 pounds of calcium oxide neutralizing equivalents.

PULP MILL LIME.—\$1.50 for each cubic yard.

(1) The application to cropland which is not used for orchard, pasture land, or the production of potatoes, of at least 500 pounds per acre of calcium oxide neutralizing equivalents in liming material furnished by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration.

(2) The application to cropland in a potato rotation of not more than 500 pounds per acre of calcium oxide neutralizing equivalents in liming material furnished by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration. If the land is to be planted to potatoes in 1941, the liming material must be applied prior to July 15, 1940.

Payment will not be allowed for the application of liming material to cropland which is to be planted to potatoes in 1940. This does not prohibit payment for applying liming material in accordance with item (2) after the 1940 crop of potatoes is harvested.

GREEN MANURE

Practice No. 8—Rate of Payment: \$1.50 per Acre

The plowing or disking under of a good stand and a good growth of (1) biennial or perennial legumes or grasses for which no payment for seeding is allowed in 1940 and, except in orchards, from which no crop of such legumes or grasses has ever been harvested; (2) annual legumes; or (3) annual grasses or small grains used as summer green manure crops on vegetable or orchard land, or used as winter green manure crops. If the crop used is one which is normally winter-killed, payment will be allowed for leaving a good stand and a good growth on the land instead of plowing or disking it under.

If the crop is grown in orchards and sufficient fertilizing material has been applied to attain a good stand and a good growth of such crop evenly distributed on the land, payment will be allowed for cutting and leaving it on the land instead of plowing or disking it under.

In Aroostook, Penobscot, Piscataquis, Somerset, and Waldo Counties, if the first crop of second-year clover is cut and left on land in a potato rotation and the second crop is plowed or disked under after August 15, 1940, payment will be allowed for the use of each crop as a green manure crop.

STRIPCROPPING

Practice No. 9—Rate of Payment: \$0.75 for Each 2 Acres

The planting of cropland in strips. Strips of intertilled crops must be separated by strips of close-growing crops.

Payment will not be allowed unless operators carry out the practice in accordance with instructions issued by the Soil Conservation Service or the State Extension Service.

CONTOUR CULTIVATION

Practice No. 10—Rate of Payment: \$0.75 for Each 4 Acres

The farming of intertilled crops on the contour.

Payment will not be allowed unless operators carry out the practice in accordance with instructions issued by the Soil Conservation Service or the State Extension Service.

TERRACING

Practice No. 11—Rate of Payment: \$1.50 for Each 200 Linear Feet

The construction of standard terrace, diversion terrace, or diversion ditches, for which proper outlets are provided.

Payment will not be allowed unless operators carry out the practice in accordance with instructions issued by the Soil Conservation Service or the State Extension Service.

MULCHING ORCHARDS AND VEGETABLE LAND

Practice No. 12—Rate of Payment: \$3 per Ton

The application of at least 2 tons per acre of mulching material to orchards or vegetable land in addition to leaving on the land all material produced thereon during 1940 from grasses, legumes, or green manure, or cover crops.

<i>Mulching materials</i>		
	<i>Percentage of weight for credit</i>	<i>Percentage of weight for credit</i>
1. Air-dried straw-----	100	7. Seaweed (wet)----- 25
2. Air-dried tame or marsh hay --	100	8. Poultry litter (dry)----- 100
3. Green tame or marsh hay-----	50	9. Poultry litter (wet)----- 50
4. Air-dried peat-----	100	10. Pea waste (wet)----- 50
5. Wet peat-----	50	11. Other materials approved by
6. Seaweed (dry)-----	100	the State committee.

IMPROVING WOODLANDS

Practice No. 13—Rate of Payment: \$3 per Acre

The improvement of the stand of forest trees under a system of farm woodland and wildlife management which includes pruning or thinning or, if needed, both. At least 100 good timber trees or trees which can become good timber trees must be left well scattered on each acre of woodland improved. The approval of the county committee must be obtained before performing this practice.

If pruning is done, it must be confined to pine or spruce not over 8 inches in diameter and must be done with a saw or pruning shears after the area has been properly thinned.

EXCLUDING LIVESTOCK FROM FARM WOODLAND

Practice No. 14—Rate of Payment: \$0.75 for Each 2 Acres

The restoration of farm woodland or sugar maple orchards, previously used for pasture, by keeping out livestock.

Payment will be allowed for each acre of woodland out of which livestock are kept, but for not more than 2 acres for each animal unit which is normally allowed to graze in the woodland.

Animal unit means one cow, two calves, one horse, two colts, five sheep, or five goats, or the equivalent thereof.

The operator must obtain approval of the county committee before performing this practice.

If under the 1936, 1937, 1938, or 1939 program a farmer has received payment for constructing fence to keep livestock out of woodland or for keeping livestock out of sugar maple orchards or other woodlands and the county committee determines that in 1940 livestock were again allowed by that farmer to graze in a part or all of the same woodland or sugar maple orchard, an amount equal to the previous payments will be withheld from any payment which would otherwise be made to such farmer under the 1940 program.

PLANTING FOREST TREES

Practice No. 15—Rate of Payment: \$7.50 per Acre

The planting of transplanted forest trees of approved species at the rate of at least 1,000 trees per acre, spaced about 6 by 6 feet. One thousand trees planted on two or more small tracts of less than 1 acre each shall be considered as an acre, even though the total area may be larger. Shrubs helpful to wildlife may be included.

Areas planted must be given reasonable protection against fire and damage by livestock-grazing and must be cultivated in accordance with good tree culture and wildlife-management practice.

Species approved for planting are white pine, when currant and gooseberry bushes have been cleaned out; red (Norway) pine; red spruce; Norway spruce; Scotch pine in mixed planting; and hybrid poplars. Other species must be approved by the State committee.

AMOUNT OF PAYMENT EARNED ON FARMS WITH NO ALLOTMENTS

On a farm which has no acreage allotment, the farmer may earn for the year an amount equal to the sum of the soil-building allowance, the woodland rehabilitation allowance, if any, and the reforestation allowance. If he earns less, he will be paid what he earns. **A farmer who wants to earn all he can under the program on a farm with no allotment should be careful not to plant more than 3 acres of potatoes.** A farmer in Androscoggin, Cumberland, Kennebec, Penobscot, or York Counties who has no vegetable allotment should also be careful not to plant more than 3 acres of vegetables for market.

The total payment will be computed as follows:

Find the amount of the soil-building payment by adding together the payments for all soil-building practices carried out at the

rates shown for the practices. However, if the total amount computed is larger than the soil-building allowance, the soil-building payment will be equal to the soil-building allowance. Add to the soil-building payment the amount earned under the woodland rehabilitation allowance. Add also the amount earned under the reforestation allowance. Then subtract 30 cents per bushel times the normal yield for each acre over 3 planted to potatoes. In Androscoggin, Cumberland, Kennebec, Penobscot, and York Counties subtract also \$20 for each acre over 3 planted to commercial vegetables. The remainder will be the total payment earned for the farm.

ACREAGE ALLOTMENTS

In 1940 acreage allotments, usual acreages, and normal yields will be set by county committees in accordance with instructions issued by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration.

A potato allotment will be set for each farm on which 3 acres or more of potatoes are usually grown. If less than 90 percent of the farm's potato allotment is planted, the potato allotment will be reduced to 110 percent of the acreage planted.

If more than 10 acres of corn for grain are usually grown on a farm with a potato allotment, a usual acreage of corn for grain will also be set for that farm.

In Androscoggin, Cumberland, Kennebec, Penobscot, and York Counties a vegetable allotment will be set for each farm on which 3 or more acres of vegetables are usually planted to be sold to persons not living on the farm. If less than 90 percent of the farm's vegetable allotment is planted, the vegetable allotment will be reduced to 110 percent of the acreage planted.

AMOUNT OF PAYMENT EARNED ON ALLOTMENT FARMS

On a farm with any acreage allotment, the farmer has the right to earn for the year an amount equal to the sum of the soil-building allowance, the reforestation allowance, the woodland rehabilitation allowance, and the payments computed for all of his allotments. If he does not carry out all the practices he may, or if he grows more allotment crops than he should, the amount earned will be less.

The amount that is earned on any farm with an allotment is computed by finding the sum of the following payment items which apply to the farm and then subtracting the sum of the deductions, if any apply.

FARMS WITH POTATO ALLOTMENTS

A **payment** at the rate shown for the practice will be computed for each soil-building practice carried out. The payment for practices cannot be larger than the soil-building allowance.

A **payment** of \$7.50 for each acre planted to forest trees will be computed under the reforestation allowance. The total amount earned for planting forest trees under the reforestation allowance cannot be larger than \$30. However, a part or all of the soil-building allowance may also be earned by planting forest trees under practice No. 15.

A **payment** of \$4 will be computed for each acre of woodland cleared under the woodland rehabilitation allowance. The total amount cannot be larger than \$60, and this payment is applicable only to farms in Cumberland, Oxford, and York Counties.

A **payment** of 3 cents per bushel times the normal yield will be computed for each acre in the potato allotment.

A **deduction** of 30 cents per bushel times the normal yield will be made for each acre planted to potatoes over the potato allotment.

If the farm is in Androscoggin, Cumberland, Kennebec, Penobscot, or York County, and there is no vegetable allotment on the farm, the farmer should be careful not to plant more than 3 acres of vegetables to be sold to persons not living on the farm. If he does, there will be a deduction of \$20 for each acre over 3. Vegetables, as defined under the program, do **not** include potatoes.

A farmer should also be careful not to harvest more than 10 acres or the usual acreage of corn for grain, whichever is greater. If he does, there will be a deduction of \$10 for each excess acre.

FARMS IN ANDROSCOGGIN, CUMBERLAND, KENNEBEC, PENOBSCOT, AND YORK COUNTIES WITH VEGETABLE ALLOTMENTS

[Does not apply in other counties]

A **payment** at the rate shown for the practice will be computed for each soil-building practice carried out. The payment for practices cannot be larger than the soil-building allowance.

A **payment** of \$7.50 for each acre planted to forest trees will be computed under the reforestation allowance. The total amount earned for planting forest trees under the reforestation allowance cannot be larger than \$30. However, a part or all of the soil-building allowance may also be earned by planting forest trees under practice No. 15.

A **payment** of \$4 will be computed for each acre of woodland cleared under the woodland rehabilitation allowance. The total amount cannot be larger than \$60, and under this section this payment is applicable only to farms in Cumberland and York Counties.

A **payment** of \$1.50 will be computed for each acre in the vegetable allotment.

A **deduction** of \$20 will be made for each acre planted to commercial vegetables over the vegetable allotment.

Commercial vegetables means the acreage of vegetables and truck crops of which the principal part of the production is sold to persons not living on the farm. This definition includes, among others, tomatoes, sweet corn, cantaloups, strawberries, and commercial bulbs and flowers, but excludes Irish potatoes, peas for canning or freezing, watermelons, and sweet corn for canning.

If there is no potato allotment on the farm, the farmer should be careful not to plant more than 3 acres of potatoes. If he does, there will be a deduction of 30 cents per bushel times the normal yield for each acre over 3.

INCREASE OF PAYMENTS

There will be added to each person's share of the farm payment, if that share is less than \$200, the amount of increase indicated in the following:

<i>Payment earned</i>	<i>Amount of increase</i>
\$20 or less	40 percent.
\$21 to \$40	\$8, plus 20 percent of amount over \$20.
\$41 to \$60	\$12, plus 10 percent of amount over \$40.
\$61 to \$186	\$14.
\$187 to \$200	Enough to increase payment to \$200.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSE

There will be deducted, from each person's payment, his share of the expense of administering the program in his county.

FURNISHING MATERIALS

Superphosphate and liming material will be furnished to farmers who want those materials in place of a payment. Complete instructions for handling this provision will be furnished the county committees. See your local committeeman for information.

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